

REMARKS

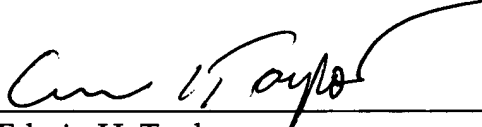
This preliminary amendment is submitted in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment date 09-08-2004.

Entry of the above-listed amendment prior to examination of the above-referenced case on the merits is respectfully requested. Claims 1-40 have been canceled. To bring clarity to the application, original Claims 8-30 have been renumbered and are now presented as new claims 41-63. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been introduced by this preliminary amendment.

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666. If a telephone interview would in any way expedite the prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact Edwin H. Taylor at (408) 720-8300.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 10/9 2004



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